

HOUSE No. 1476

By Mr. Fallon of Malden, petition of Christopher G. Fallon that certain fraternal benefit societies and veterans' organizations be authorized to conduct video poker games. Economic Development and Emerging Technologies.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Five.

AN ACT AUTHORIZING VIDEO POKER GAMES TO BE CONDUCTED BY CERTAIN ORGANIZATIONS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 Chapter 22 of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding
2 the following section:—

3 Section 21. Any fraternal benefit society, as defined in section
4 1 of chapter 176 and any veterans' organization incorporated or
5 chartered by the Congress of the United States desiring to conduct
6 video poker games with which prizes are offered may upon appli-
7 cation to the commission established herein be granted a licenses
8 to conduct such games.

9 The fee for such license shall be determined annually by the
10 commissioner of administration under the provision of section 3B
11 of chapter 7. The proceeds of said fees shall be paid into the trea-
12 sury of the commonwealth and shall be used by the commission to
13 defray the cost of administering this section, subject appropria-
14 tion.

15 Any organization licensed under this section to conduct said
16 game shall operate, manage and control said game by members in
17 good standing of the local branch of said organization, members
18 in good standing of its recognized auxiliaries and, at the sole dis-
19 cretion of the director, their immediate family members.

20 The profits of any game licensed to be conducted under this
21 section shall be the property of the organization conducting the
22 game, provided, however, 5% of such profits shall be paid over
23 the commonwealth on a monthly basis.

24 There shall be in a the department of public safety, but not
25 under the control of the commissioner, a commission to be known
26 as the keno poker licensing commission which shall consist of 3
27 members to be appointed by the governor. The commission shall
28 receive and act on applications for licenses to operate keno poker
29 games and shall from time to time make, alter, amend and repeal
30 rules and regulations with regard to conducting such games.